## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF ALABAMA RECEIVED THE NORTHERN DIVISION

| CAROLYN MILLENDER  Plaintiff,  VS.  H. COUNCILL TRENHOLM STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE; ANTHONY MOLINA, in his official capacity as                          | 2007 FEB 16 P 2: 36  DEBRA P. HACKETT CUM U.S. DESTAIC COUNT MEDICAL SIGNALS ALA  CASE NO.: 2:07 CV 145 - MHT  ) ) |
|--|--|
| President of H. Councill Trenholm State  |  |
| College,   | )  |
| Defendants.  | )  |
| IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MO   | NTGOMERY COUNTY, ALABAMA   |
| CAROL IN MILLENDER   | )  |
| Plaintiff,   | )  |
| VS.  | ) Civil Action Case No: CV-07-17   |
| H. COUNCILL TRENHOLM STATE<br>TECHNICAL COLLEGE; ANTHONY<br>MOLINA, in his official capacity as<br>President of H. Councill Trenholm State<br>College, | ) ) ) ) ) ) )  |
| Defendants.  | )  |

## **PETITION FOR REMOVAL**

COME NOW the Petitioners, H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College (hereinafter referred to as "Trenholm State Technical College") and Anthony Molina, in his official capacity as President of H. Councill Trenholm State College, through undersigned counsel, and pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446, respectfully show this Court the following:

- 1. The Petitioners are the Defendants in the above styled action.
- 2. The Plaintiff is a female employee at Trenholm State Technical College.
- 3. On or about January 4, 2007, the Plaintiff filed the above styled action against these Defendants/ Petitioners in the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Alabama where it remains pending.
- 4. On January 17, 2007, the Defendants/Petitioners were served with the summons and complaint by certified mail in Montgomery County, Alabama, copies of which are attached hereto at Exhibit "A".
- 5. This Petition for Removal is filed with this Court within thirty (30) days after the Defendants/Petitioners were served with the summons and complaint in the above-styled action.
- 6. In her Complaint, the Plaintiff asserts claims: for sex discrimination and retaliation under Title VII (Count I); for violation of the Equal Pay Act (Count II); for gender discrimination in employment practices under the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and 42 U.S.C. §1983 (Count III); for retaliatory employment practices under the First and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution to the United States and 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (Count III); and for breach of contract (Count IV).
- 7. The Plaintiff seeks monetary damages in addition to injunctive and declaratory relief for the purported discrimination to which she has allegedly been subjected in pay and promotion and for the purported retaliation to which she also claims to

have been subjected for filing an EEOC charge and complaining about the same, all of which are more fully described in the Complaint attached hereto at Exhibit "A".

- 8. As noted above, the Plaintiff has stated federal causes of action on the face of her Complaint including Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991, the Equal Pay Act, 29 U.S.C. § 206(d), and 42 U.S.C. § 1983. This Court has supplemental jurisdiction over the Plaintiff's pendant state law contract claim pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1367(a).
- 9. This Court, therefore, has original jurisdiction of the above entitled action pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. § 1331 and removal of this action is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441(b).

WHEREFORE, premises considered, the Defendants/Petitioners respectfully petition this Court for removal of the above entitled action from the Circuit Court of Montgomery County, Alabama to Federal Court.

Respectfully submitted on this the 16th of February, 2007.

Mary Goldthwaite (GOL103)

Assistant Attorney General

Attorney for Defendants H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College and

Anthony Molina

OF COUNSEL:

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 11 South Union Street Montgomery, AL 36130 (334) 242-7443 (334) 242-2433

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have, on this the 16th day of February , 2007, served a copy of the foregoing on the following counsel, by placing same in the United States mail, postage prepaid, and properly addressed as follows:

William F. Patty, Esq. Beers, Anderson, Jackson, Patty, Van Heest & Fawal, PC P.O. Box 1988 Montgomery, Al 36102

OF COUNSEL

| State of Ala<br>Unified Jud<br>Form C-34   | licial System  |   |  | MMONS<br>EIVIL-  |  | Case Number   |
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| IN THE   | CIRCU  | ЛТ  | CO   | URT OF _   | MONTGOMERY   | COUNTY  |
| Plaintiff Carolyn Millender v. Defendant H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College; Anthony Molina, in his official capacity as President of H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College   |  |   |  |  |  |   |
| NOTICE TO H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College, 1225 Air Base Boulevard,  Montgomery, AL 36108   |  |   |  |  |  |   |
| ACTION TO WRITTEN OF THIS CO   | O PROTECT YOU<br>ANSWER, EITHE<br>OURT. A COPY OI<br>LAINTIFF OR PLA | R RIGHTS. YC<br>R ADMITTING<br>F YOUR ANSW<br>INTIFF'S ATTO | OU OR YOUR AT<br>OR DENYING<br>ER MUST BE M<br>ORNEY | TTORNEY AR<br>EACH ALLEO<br>AILED OR HA<br>William F. Pa | E REQUIRED TO FILE<br>FATION IN THE COMP<br>AND DELIVERED BY Y | MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE THE ORIGINAL OF YOUR LAINT WITH THE CLERK OU OR YOUR ATTORNEY WHOSE ADDRESS 2; (334) 834-5311 |
| THIS ANSWER MUST BE MAILED OR DELIVERED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT WERE DELIVERED TO YOU OR A JUDGMENT OF DEFAULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR THE MONEY OR OTHER THINGS DEMANDED IN THE COMPLAINT.   |  |   |  |  |  |   |
| TO ANY   | SHERIFF OR A   | NY PERSON   | N AUTHORIZ   | ED by the A  | Alabama Rule of Civi   | l Procedure:  |
| You are hereby commanded to serve this summons and a copy of the complaint in this action upon the defendant  Service by certified mail of this summons is initiated upon the written request of Plaintiff's Attorney pursuant to the Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure.  Date/-/2-07 |  |   |  |  |  |   |
| Date   | 11201  |   |  | Clerk/Regist   | er   | By:   |
| ⊠ Ce   | ertified Mail is h   | ereby request   | <b>y</b> ~   | Plaintiff's/A  | torney Signature   |   |
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EXHIBIT

EXHIBIT

| State of Alabama<br>Unified Judicial System  | SUMMONS |                              | Case Number         |  |
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| Form C-34 Rev 6/88   | -CIVIL- |                              | CV07-17             |  |
| IN THE CIRC  | лт со   | OURT OFMONTGOMERY            | COUNTY              |  |
| Plaintiff Carolyn Miliender v. Defendant H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College; Anthony Molina, in his official capacity as President of H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College, et al  |         |                              |                     |  |
| NOTICE TODr. Anthony L. Molina, in his official capacity as President of H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College, 1225 Air Base Boulevard, Montgomery, AL 36108   |         |                              |                     |  |
| THE COMPLAINT WHICH IS ATTACHED TO THIS SUMMONS IS IMPORTANT AND YOU MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR RIGHTS. YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY ARE REQUIRED TO FILE THE ORIGINAL OF YOUR WRITTEN ANSWER, EITHER ADMITTING OR DENYING EACH ALLEGATION IN THE COMPLAINT WITH THE CLERK OF THIS COURT. A COPY OF YOUR ANSWER MUST BE MAILED OR HAND DELIVERED BY YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY TO THE PLAINTIFF OR PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY William F. Patty WHOSE ADDRESS IS Beers, Anderson, Jackson, Patty, Van Heest & Fawal, P.C., P.O. Box 1988, Montgomery, AL 36102; (334) 834-5311  THIS ANSWER MUST BE MAILED OR DELIVERED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THIS SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT |         |                              |                     |  |
| WERE DELIVERED TO YOU<br>OTHER THINGS DEMANDE  |         | ULT MAY BE ENTERED AGAINST Y | OU FOR THE MONEY OR |  |
| TO ANY SHERIFF OR ANY PERSON AUTHORIZED by the Alabama Rule of Civil Procedure:  You are hereby commanded to serve this summons and a copy of the complaint in this action upon the defendant  Service by certified mail of this summons is initiated upon the written request of Plaintiff's Attorney pursuant to the Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure.   |         |                              |                     |  |
| Date   |         |                              |                     |  |
| Clerk/Register  Certified Mail is hereby requested.  Plaintiff's/Attorney Signature  |         |                              |                     |  |
| RETURN ON SERVICE:   |         |                              |                     |  |
| Return receipt of certified mail received in this office on  |         |                              |                     |  |
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## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, ALABAMA

| Plaintiss Datis                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Plaintiff/Petitioner,              |                            |
|                                    | Case No.: <u>CY 07- 17</u> |
| . COUNCILL TRENHOLM                | ) DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL    |
| TATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE;            | )                          |
| NTHONY MOLINA, in his official     | )                          |
| pacity as President of H. Councill |                            |
| renholm State Technical College,   | $\mathbf{S}$               |
|                                    |                            |
| Defendants/Respondents.            | · )                        |
|                                    |                            |
|                                    | - 5 <sub>0</sub>           |

COMES NOW, the Plaintiff/Petitioner, Carolyn Millender (hereinafter "Plaintiff Millender"), by and through counsel, and files this complaint and petition:

### **BACKGROUND AND PARTIES**

- 1. Plaintiff Millender is a female adult resident of Montgomery County, Alabama.
- 2. Defendant/Respondent H. Councill Trehnolm State Technical College (hereinafter "Defendant Trenholm") is an entity doing business in Montgomery County, Alabama and is an employer within the meaning of Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1991 Amendment thereto. Trenholm's campus and main offices are located in Montgomery County, Alabama. Trenholm is a two-year public college in the Postsecondary College System.
- 3. Defendant/Respondent Anthony Molina (hereinafter referred to as "Defendant Molina") is sued in his official capacity as President of Trenholm. Defendant Molina, as the President of Trenholm, is the individual responsible for the daily operation of Defendant Trenholm.

- 4. This action is brought in the Circuit Court of the County where the unlawful employment practices were committed.
- 5. Plaintiff Millender is an employee of Defendant Trenholm and Defendant Trenholm is an employer within the definitions of Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, and the 1991 Amendments thereto.

#### **FACTS**

- 6. Plaintiff Millender was hired by Defendant Trenholm on or about August 1, 2000. She was initially hired as Case Management Specialist/Coordinator of Welfare to Work Program. Plaintiff Millender has a Bachelor's degree from Stillman College and a Master's Degree in Management from Faulkner University.
- 7. In about 2003, Plaintiff Millender was moved to the position of Program Director of Welfare to Work Program and received a pay increase. On or about August, 2004 Plaintiff was moved to the position of Director of Automotive Work Force, Off-campus Instructional Sites. In a month of taking this new position she was given additional duties for a program called "Tech Prep". She has been given all the "Tech Prep" duties for the school and made Director of that program. In June of 2005, Plaintiff Millender was given additional duties of the WorkKeys Program. By August of 2005 Plaintiff Millender was the Director of three programs. As these additional duties were added she was not given additional monies.
- 8. On or about October 27, 2005, Petitioner asked Defendant Molina for a pay raise. Petitioner is paid pursuant to a salary schedule. However, the salary schedule that she is placed on is a C-3 salary schedule. Unlike the other salary schedules in the school system, this salary schedule has one step that says that the President can pay an employee on this schedule anywhere between \$0-

71,000. The salary schedule has no objective standards or criteria for how a person is to be placed on the salary schedule. The salary schedule allows the President to use his discretion on how to pay an individual. There are no objective standards or policies which dictate who is placed on a C-3 salary schedule and who is not placed on a C-3 salary schedule.

- 9. At the meeting on or about October 27, 2005, Defendant Molina agreed to place Plaintiff on the C-2 salary schedule at step 5 which based upon her years of experience and education would have increased her annual pay by approximately \$16,000. He expressed to her that she was doing an excellent job and appreciated what she did for the school. However this change was not effectuated and Plaintiff Millender did not receive her raise.
- 10. On or about May 4, 2006, Defendant Molina approached Plaintiff Millender stating that he had heard about negative comments being made about him. At that time, Defendant Molina told Plaintiff Millender that he could not promote someone who had negative things to say about him. Later, Plaintiff Millender asked Defendant Molina if he thought she had made negative comments and she was told it was someone she was getting close to who had made negative comments about him. However, after this conversation Defendant Molina was much more negative toward Plaintiff Millender in his demeanor and conversations. Prior to this conversation Plaintiff Millender had only received praise from Defendant Molina about her work at the school. She had not been formally evaluated at that point.
- 11. On or about June 27, 2006, Plaintiff Millender wrote Defendant Molina stating that she is being paid less than male counterparts who have similar or less experience and have similar or less duties. Plaintiff identified three male employees who were paid more than Plaintiff and who are similarly situated to plaintiff. She opposed an unlawful discriminatory practice in that letter and

outlined what she was doing at the school and again requested a salary increase and a promotion to the C-1 salary schedule.

- 12. In a letter dated July 5, 2006, Defendant Molina responded to her letter stating that, in substance, that she could not be moved to the C-1 Salary Schedule due to economic problems of the school. In that letter, Defendant Molina stated that he would meet with Plaintiff to discuss other options or possibilities for her. Other employees of the school, namely male supervisors, had received increased pay for additional duties around the time of her request.
- 13. On July 25, 2006, a meeting was held between Defendant Molina, Joan Davis (attorney for the Department of Postsecondary Education and Vice Chancellor of the Department of Postsecondary Education), Wilford Holt (supervisor of Plaintiff Millender), Ann Sippial (AEA UniServe Director), Pam Rollins (Human Resources Director at Trenholm Tech), and Plaintiff. At this meeting, Plaintiff Millender reiterated her request to be paid additional monies and to be properly compensated given her duties and experience and that she was not compensated the same as male counterparts who performed similar or less work with similar or less experience and credentials. Defendant Molina refused to provide additional monies for Plaintiff Millender and told Plaintiff Millender he would remove some of her duties.
- 14. On August 9, 2006, Plaintiff filed an EEOC complaint regarding the discriminatory pay. Said complaint is attached hereto as Exhibit "A". Plaintiff received a Right to Sue letter after October 6, 2006. Said letter is attached hereto as Exhibit "B".
- 15. On August 16, 2006, Ann Sippial, on behalf of Plaintiff Millender, restated Plaintiff Millender's position that she should receive a salary increase and promotion to C-1 pay schedule and that Ms. Millender enjoys her job duties and responsibilities and only requests to be properly

compensated. The letter stated that Plaintiff Millender expected, as a result of the July 25, 2006 meeting, the school would get back with Plaintiff Millender and she was waiting on the school's response to her request. On the same date of August 16, 2006, Defendant Molina wrote Ann Sippial and stated that the college could not afford Millender's salary increase and that he would eliminate some of her job duties. This elimination of duties took place officially September 25, 2006. Plaintiff Millender considers this removal to be retaliatory for her opposing an unlawful employment practice and to be a demotion.

- 16. Upon information and belief, Defendants have a history of discriminating against employees based upon their gender. Further, Defendants have a history of unlawful retaliation against employees for engaging in protected speech and/or making EEOC complaints.
- 17. No actions have been taken to properly correct the discriminatory actions of Defendant Trenholm.
- 18. The authority and responsibility for operation, management, control, supervision, maintenance, regulation, and improvement Defendant Trenholm is vested by law with Defendant Molina.
- 19. Defendant Molina has the authority to hire, fire, promote and make work assignments of employees of Defendant Trehnolm.
- 20. Defendants made the decision to deny Plaintiff the promotion and pay increase as well as take away her job title and job responsibilities. Defendants discriminated against Plaintiff due to her gender and for voicing concerns about discrimination in the pay. Defendants have discriminated in the pay of Plaintiff by paying her less than similarly situated males and by assigning her additional duties without additional compensation unlike Defendants' treatment of similarly

situated males. Defendants have used a C-3 salary schedule (that has no objective standards or written policies for determining what amount of salary to pay or who should be placed on the schedule) to discriminate against Plaintiff based on her gender. Defendants refused to honor their agreement to place Plaintiff on C-2 salary schedule.

- 21. Defendant Molina acted outside his jurisdiction and without authorization of law.

  Defendant Molina acted willfully, knowingly, and purposefully with a specific intent to deprive Plaintiff of her rights as herein alleged.
- 22. Plaintiff's exercise of her rights to complain about discrimination and the illegal compensation practices of Defendant Trenholm and Defendant Molina was a significant motivating factor in Defendant' denial of her job promotion, increase in pay, removal of job titles and job responsibilities. In addition, Plaintiff's gender was a significant motivating factor in Defendants' decisions to deny her the job promotion, increases in pay for increased duties, to take away her job title, to not pay her per the agreement to place her on the C-2 salary schedule or to compensate her as similarly situated males are compensated.
- 23. The unlawful denial of promotion, the taking away of her job title and duties, the refusal to increase her pay with increased duties, refusal to abide by the agreement reached with her to place her on a C-2 salary schedule, and the use of the C-3 salary schedule to discriminate against Plaintiff were the exercise of final policy making authority by Defendant Molina and these decisions were not subject to meaningful review under State law as well as relevant custom having the force of law.

- 24. Defendants denied Plaintiff the promotion, denied her an increase in pay for the increase in job duties, and refused to abide by the agreement to place her on the C-2 salary schedule, did not compensate her as similarly situated males are compensated and did not increase her pay for increased duties as they did for similarly situated males, and used the C-3 salary schedule to discriminate unlawfully against the Plaintiff based upon her gender and for her opposing unlawful employment practices. All such actions were arbitrary and capricious actions by Defendant Molina in his position as President of Defendant Trenholm. Defendant Trenholm has ratified actions of Defendant Molina by not taking steps to stop and/or correct same.
- 25. Defendants have acted outside their jurisdiction and without authorization of law.

  Defendants have acted willfully, knowingly, and purposely with a specific intent to deprive Plaintiff of her rights as alleged herein.
- 26. Upon information and belief, Defendants have acted in concert with each other in these illegal employment decisions toward Plaintiff Millender in violation of 42 U.S.C. §1983 and §1985(3).
- 27. In their actions toward Plaintiff as described above, Defendants acted willfully, intentionally and with callous and reckless indifference to Plaintiff's rights under the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, the Equal Protection Clause, 42 U.S.C. §1983 and §1985(3), and the laws of the State of Alabama. As a result of Defendants' denial of the promotion to Plaintiff, increase in pay to Plaintiff, refusal to honor the agreement to place Plaintiff on the C-2 salary schedule, refusal to increase Plaintiff's pay for increased duties as Defendants have treated similarly situated males, not compensate Plaintiff as similarly situated males are compensated, and the use of the C-3 salary schedule to discriminate against Plaintiff based upon her gender and to retaliate against her, and the removal of her duties and responsibilities in causing her to be demoted

in retaliation of Plaintiff's exercise of her rights to complain about discrimination, Plaintiff has suffered a loss of income, loss of job benefits, severe humiliation, mental distress and emotional suffering.

#### COUNT I -

## **GENDER DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION - TITLE VII**

- 28. Plaintiff adopts and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in this complaint as if set out anew herein.
- 29. Plaintiff alleges that Defendant Trenholm is the employer of Plaintiff and Plaintiff is an employee within the definitions of Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000e, et seq., as amended.
- 30. Plaintiff has been intentionally discriminated against on the basis of her gender, female, by Defendant Trenholm in violation of Title VII based upon the following:
  - a. Plaintiff has been denied promotion from the C-3 salary schedule to either C-2 or C-1 salary schedule, as described above;
  - b. Plaintiff has been denied an increase in pay for increased duties while male employees have been given increased pay for increased duties. These actions are in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991;
  - c. Plaintiff has been paid less than male counterparts who have equal or less experience and equal or less qualifications and have equal or less job responsibilities and duties. These actions were in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991;
  - d. Plaintiff has been denied promotion to C-2 salary schedule as agreed upon by the Defendants. This refusal is based upon her gender and in violation of the Civil Rights Acts of 1964, as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991;
  - e. Defendant Trenholm has used the C-3 salary schedule, which has no objective standards or written policies for where an individual is to be

placed or paid on it, or any objective standard or written policy about who is to be placed on the C-3 schedule versus C-1 or C-2 schedule. The lack of objective standards, written policies, and the broad range of the salary schedule and its allowance of the arbitrary and capricious discretion of the President to place persons on the schedule and to pay them whatever amount of money he wishes to pay facilitates, led to, or allows Defendants to discriminate based upon gender, in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991;

- f. The removal of Plaintiff's title and duties and responsibilities discriminates against Plaintiff in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, 1964 as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991 and treated her differently than similarly situated males.:
- g. Defendant Trenholm has a history of discriminating against female employees of violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991.
- 31. In taking the above described actions, Defendant Trenholm intentionally discriminated against Plaintiff on the basis of her sex. Males were not treated in a similar fashion. The actions of Defendant Trenholm were taken with malice and reckless indifference to the federally protected rights of Plaintiff.
- 32. Defendant Trenholm unlawfully and intentionally retaliated against Plaintiff by denying her increase pay for her increased duties, by denying her promotion, by denying her compensation as similarly situated employees and by demoting her and/or removing her duties all because she filed an EEOC complaint and/or opposed discriminatory practice by Defendant Trenholm in her letter of June 27, 2006 and meeting on July 25, 2006 in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991. As a result of this retaliation, Plaintiff suffered as a proximate cause economic loss, lost wages, mental anguish and other compensatory damages. Defendant Trenholm has a pattern practice of retaliation against females

and/or those who complain against and oppose discriminatory practices of Defendant and file EEOC complaints.

- 33. As a proximate result of Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff has suffered, and will continue to suffer, lost back pay and benefits, mental anguish, emotional distress and other damages.
- 34. Plaintiff has satisfied all administrative prerequisites to bring in this claim.

  Plaintiff has timely filed a charge with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission against Defendants, and has received a statutory Right to Sue letter which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and "B".
- 35. Plaintiff has exhausted her administrative remedies and satisfied all jurisdictional requirements before filing suit under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991. This complaint is filed within 90 days of receipt of the notification of the right to sue letter on her EEOC charge. Said right to sue letter was mailed on October 6, 2006, and received thereafter.

WHEREFORE, THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff respectfully requests this Court to grant the following relief:

- (A) Grant Plaintiff declaratory judgment that practices complained of herein are violative of the rights secured to Plaintiff by Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the 1991 amendments thereto.
- (B) Grant Plaintiff an order in joining Defendant Trenholm and all persons acting in concert with Defendant from engaging in discriminatory and retaliatory employment practices on the basis of gender.
  - (C) Grant Plaintiff the placement, position and the pay she should have received absent

Defendants' discriminatory treatment.

- (D) Grant Plaintiff the appropriate amount of back pay, damages, a pay raise with back pay in the amount that she would have earned but for the unlawful discriminatory and retaliatory practices of Defendant, and reinstatement, and/or in the alternative, front pay.
- (E) Grant Plaintiff an award of compensatory damages, including but not limited to, mental anguish and emotional distress.
  - (F) Award Plaintiff her costs and expenses including what are reasonably attorney's fees.
  - (G) Award any other such legal and equitable relief that may be appropriate.

#### COUNT II -

## **VIOLATION OF EQUAL PAY ACT**

- 36. Plaintiff adopts and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in this complaint as if set out anew herein.
- of the Equal Pay Act. During the period of time that Plaintiff has been an employee of Defendant Trenholm, Plaintiff has performed the same duties as male employees, particularly the male supervisors, Mike Miller, Michael Evans, Quinton Ross and Charles Harris; however, she has been paid less wages, and has been placed and maintained on a lower pay schedule, for equal work which she has performed, requiring equal skills, equal effort, and equal responsibility. Such practices violate the Equal Pay Act, 29 U.S.C. §206(d). Further, Defendant Trenholm has retaliated against Plaintiff by refusing to increase her pay to that of males doing equal work with equal skill, equal effort, and equal responsibility, refused to increase her pay for additional responsibilities she has undertaken as has been done for male employees, and by demoting her and removing job duties in

violation of the Equal Pay Act, 29 U.S.C. §206(d).

WHEREFORE, THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff respectfully requests this Court to provide the following relief:

- (A) To award against Defendant Trenholm a declaratory judgment finding the policies and actions of Defendant violated the Equal Pay Act and enter a mandatory and permanent injunction to remedy such violation with the award of pay, back pay (plus interest), seniority and benefits to which the Plaintiff would have been entitled had such violation not occurred.
- (B) To enter an order for compensatory damages in the amount to be determined by the trier of fact including back pay and emotional distress for violations of the Equal Pay Act by Defendant Trenholm.
- (C) Enter an award of attorney's fees, expenses and costs against Defendant Trenholm and in favor of Plaintiff.
  - (D) Award such other relief as the Court deems proper and just under the circumstances.

#### **COUNT III -**

## **CONSTITUTIONAL VIOLATIONS AND 42 U.S.C. §1983**

- 38. Plaintiff adopts and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in this complaint as if set out a new herein.
- 39. This action is brought against Defendant Molina in his official capacity and against Defendant Trenholm.
- 40. Defendant Molina is the official and final policy maker for Trenholm and is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the institution. Defendant Molina is the final decision maker of Defendant Trenholm. Defendant Molina's actions are official custom and/or policy of

Defendant Trenholm. Defendant Molina's actions are not subject to meaningful review. The actions of Defendant Molina were wrongful and unconstitutional and in excess of his jurisdiction, made without authorization of law and/or willfully, in bad faith, knowingly, and purposely with specific intent to deprive Plaintiff of her rights herein. A result of reasons of the actions described in this complaint Plaintiff has suffered irreparable injury, hardship and harm by Defendants Molina and Trenholm.

- 41. Under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution, Plaintiff had a right to be free from gender discrimination in her employment with Defendant. Defendant Molina, in his official capacity, and Defendant Trehnolm, under color of state law in violation of 42 U.S.C. §1983, purposely deprived Plaintiff of clearly established federal and constitutional rights by subjecting to her to intentional and unlawful discriminatory employment practices based upon her sex as described above and retaliatory practices based upon her EEOC complaint and opposing unlawful discriminatory practices of the school. Those practices included refusal to compensate her for the work as similarly situated males are compensated, refusal to increase her pay for increased duties as had been done for similarly situated males, refusal to promote her, refusal to honor the agreement of the C-2 salary schedule, use of a C-3 salary schedule as a means for discriminatory conduct based upon gender and the removal of her title and her duties for objecting to discriminatory treatment and for opposing unlawful employment practices. As a result of this discrimination and retaliation, Plaintiff has suffered damages and lost wages, mental anguish and lost benefits.
- 42. Under the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution, Plaintiff had a right to be free from arbitrary and capricious actions and decisions

of Defendants. Defendant Molina, in his official capacity and Defendant Trenholm, under color of State law, in violation of 42 U.S.C. §1983 purposely deprived Plaintiff of clearly establishing Federal statutory and constitutional rights by arbitrary and capriciously refusing to pay her additional monies for additional duties assigned, to discriminatory treat her as a class of one and refuse to pay her as other similarly situated administrators, to arbitrarily and capriciously use an alleged salary schedule called C-3 salary schedule which has one cell \$0-71,000 and allows persons to be placed on it and at certain levels without any objective standard or written policies or rational basis. As a result of these actions Plaintiff has suffered damages, lost wages, mental anguish and lost benefits.

Constitution, Plaintiff had a right to be free from retaliation for being associated with individuals who Defendants believed criticized Defendant Molina. Further, Plaintiff had a right under said provisions of the Constitution to not be retaliated against for exercising protected speech. Defendants retaliated against Plaintiff by demoting Plaintiff and reducing her duties, refusing her increase in pay that was appropriately due and for refusing to promote Plaintiff based upon retaliation for association with an individual who criticized Defendant Molina and for objecting and opposing to unlawful discrimination practices by Defendant Molina and Defendant Trenholm. And filing an EEOC complaint. Defendant Molina, in his official capacity, and Defendant Trenholm under color of State law and in violation of 42 U.S.C. §1983 purposely deprived Plaintiff of the clearly established federal statutory and the Constitutional Rights as described above. As a proximate cause of the wrongful acts of Defendants, Plaintiff avers that she has suffered economic losses, lost wages, lost benefits, income, mental anguish and other compensatory damages.

WHEREFORE, THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff respectfully requests this Honorable Court to provide the following relief:

- (A) To issue a Declaratory Judgment declaring the actions of all Defendants in failing to promote Plaintiff, failing to increase Plaintiff's pay, failing to honor the agreement placed on a C-2 salary schedule, failure to compensate her an amount as similarly situated males, discriminatory use of the C-3 salary schedule, and/or the removal her title and job responsibilities as alleged herein violated Plaintiff's rights under the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution and 42 U.S.C. §1983.
- (B) Issue declaratory judgment declaring the employment practices of Defendants as set out in this complaint unconstitutional.
- (C) Enter mandatory and permanent injunction requiring Defendants to promote or increase the pay of Plaintiff with all back pay, allowances, seniority, tenure, retirement benefits, to which Plaintiff would have been promoted or received absent the unconstitutional actions described above of the Defendants.
- (D) Enter a mandatory and permanent injunction conjoining Defendants, their successors in office, their agents, their servants, and their employees from discriminating or retaliating against Plaintiff in violation of the First and Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution and 42 U.S.C. §1983.
- (E) Enter an order requiring Defendants to make Plaintiff whole by granting appropriate declaratory and injunctive relief, awarding back pay, awarding mental anguish damages, economic compensatory damage to be determined by the trier of fact, award attorney's fees, expenses and costs.

(F) Grant such additional and further relief as the Court deems proper and just in the circumstances.

#### **COUNT IV -**

## **BREACH OF CONTRACT/MANDAMUS**

- 44. Plaintiff adopts and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in this complaint as if set out a new herein.
- 45. Defendants agree to move Plaintiff from the C-3 salary schedule to the C-2 salary schedule and to an appropriate level of her experience at that salary schedule. Defendants breached that agreement and failed to refuse to move Plaintiff to that position. Plaintiff has relied upon to her detriment the promises and agreement of the Defendants. Defendants have arbitrarily and capriciously breached this agreement by refusing to move her from the C-2 salary schedule.
- 46. Plaintiff requests declaratory and injunctive relief as well as mandamus to order Defendants to, first, find that there was a valid lawful agreement between Plaintiff and Defendants for Plaintiff to be placed on a C-2 salary schedule; second, to find that Plaintiff is entitled to be placed upon the C-2 salary schedule; and third, based upon those findings, enter injunctive relief and mandamus to order Plaintiff to be placed on the appropriate C-2 salary schedule as per the agreement. Further, Plaintiff requests that she be awarded back pay and other compensatory amounts.

WHEREFORE, THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff requests this Court to enter a writ of mandamus and injunctive and declaratory relief described above and enter the findings and award the relief described above. Further Plaintiff requests award of costs for the prosecution of this action and other appropriate relief as the Court deems fit.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this the 4th day of January, 2007.

WILLIAM F. PATTY (PAT038) Attorney for Carolyn Millender

#### **OF COUNSEL:**

BEERS, ANDERSON, JACKSON, PATTY, VAN HEEST & FAWAL, P.C. P. O. Box 1988 Montgomery, AL 36102 (334)834-5311 (phone) (334)834-5362 (fax)

PLAINTIFF/PETITIONER MILLENDER HEREBY DEMANDS A TRIAL BY JURY FOR ALL ISSUES TRIABLE BY A JURY.

OF COUNSEL

# <u>DEFENDANTS MAY BE SERVED VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED AS FOLLOWS:</u>

H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College 1225 Air Base Boulevard Montgomery, AL 36108

Dr. Anthony L. Molina, President 1225 Air Base Boulevard Montgomery, AL 36108

## VERIFIED COMPLAINT

STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY

Before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared **CAROLYN MILLENDER**, who being by me first duly sworn and who being known to me deposes and says that the facts set out in the foregoing Complaint/Writ of Mandamus are true and correct to the best of her knowledge, information and belief.

arolyn Melender
CAROLYN MILLENDER

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of

NOTADY DUDLIC

My Commission Expires: 7/2-7

1

| CHARGE OF DISCRIMINATION  | AGENCY  | CHARGE NUMBER   |
|---|---|---|
| its form is affected by the Privacy Act of 1974; See Privacy Act. Statement   | FEPA  |   |
| before completing this form.  | EEOC  |   |
|   |   | and EEOC  |
|   |   |   |
| State or local Agency, if any   | HOME TELEPHONE (Include                                 | Arna Codo)  |
| NAME (Indicate Mr. Ms., Mrs.) MS. (appur Wiltender  | 1 1   | 1-2108  |
| 3552 Dec Drive Montgomery,  | AL 36116  | DATE OF BIRTH 05/03/70  |
| NAMED IS THE EMPLOYER, LABOR ORGANIZATION, EMPLOYMENT AGENCY APPRENAGENCY WHO DISCRIMINATED AGAINST ME (If more than one list below.)             | Miceship committee, STA                                 | ITE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT   |
| NAME H (MINCIL TREMBLACHUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, MEMBERS   | # Hatulary O -v   | TELEPHONE (Include Area Code)                                   |
| State Technical College 200+  |   | (334) 420-4200  |
| STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE   |   | COUNTY  |
| 1225 Air Base Blvd. Montgomery, A   | 2 36/08   | Montgomeny  |
| NAME (Indicate Mr., Ms., Mrs.)<br>Dr. Anthony L. Molina, Aresident  | HOME TELEPHONE (Include (334) 420-                      | 42/6 Office   |
| STREET ADDRESS CITY, STATE AND ZIP CODE   | 11 2 100  | COUNTY  |
| 1225 Her Base Blid. Montgomens,   | AL 36108  | Montgomen   |
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|   |   | CONTINUING ACTION   |
| THE PARTICULARS ARE (if additional paper is needed, attach extra sheet(s)):   |   |   |
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|   |   | I DISTRICT OVFICE   |
| I want this charge filed with both the EEOC and the State or Local Agency, if any. I will advise the agencies if I change my address or telephone | NOTARY - (When necessary                                | for State and Local Requirements)                               |
| number and I will cooperate fully with them in the processing of my charge in accordance with their procedures.                                   | swear or affirm that I have re                          | ad the above charge and that it is                              |
| I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.  | true to the best of my knowled<br>SIGNATURE OF COMPLAIN | уе, иноглавол ало рекет.<br>TANT                                |
|   |   |   |
| Date   Charging Part (Signapule)   Charging Part (Signapule)   Hillendes  | SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN                                    | TO BEFORE ME THIS DATE  |
|   | I   |   |

**EXHIBIT** 

#### THE PARTICULARS ARE:

I have been employed with H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College since August 2000. In October 2004, I served in the position of Director of Automotive Workforce Development, Off-Campus Instructional Site, and Tech Prep and was paid pursuant to the school's C-3 salary pay schedule. At this time there were several males in the position of Director and was responsible for one (1) program and was paid pursuant to the C salary pay schedule at a higher salary. Some of those males were: Michael Evans, Retention Advisor; Mike Miller, Coordinator of Training for Business and Industry; and Quinton Ross, Director of Adult Education. President Molina has the sole discretion of where to place individuals on the school's C salary schedule.

In June 2005, I was given the additional duties and responsibilities of WorkKeys Test Administrator/Job Profiler. For the 2005-2006 school year, I was responsible and in charge of these three (3) programs. However, I continued to be paid at the lowest step of the C salary schedule while male Directors who are only responsible for single programs were paid at higher steps/salaries. Upon information and belief, I am paid at a rate less than male comparators who perform lesser or equal duties and responsibilities than I do because of my sex/gender (female). But for my gender/sex, I would be placed at higher steps on the C salary schedule.

Since Dr. Molina's appointment as President of Trenholm State Technical College, he has never placed a female on the C salary schedule above Step 3. Steps 1 and 2 are reserved solely for male professionals.

Date:

Charging Party (Signature):

RECEIVED EEOC

AUG 0 9 2006

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT OFFICE

The following are additional individuals/agencies that also discriminate against me:

- 1. The Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education ("Department of Postsecondary Education") which provides leadership, direction and supervision for the member institutions of The Alabama College System such as H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College.
- 2. The Alabama State Board of Education ("State Board") which is responsible for overseeing and directing the Department of Postsecondary Education. Moreover, the State Board of Education is charged with appointing the Chancellor.
- 3. The Chancellor for the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education. The Chancellor is charged with assisting the State Board in carrying out its authority with respect to the management and operation of the community, junior, and technical colleges within the Department of Postsecondary Education.

RECEIVED EEOC

AUG 0 9 2006

BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT OFFICE

**EXHIBIT** 

EEOC Form 161 (3/98)

#### U.S. EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

## **DISMISSAL AND NOTICE OF RIGHTS**

Carolyn Millender 3552 Dee Drive Montgomery, AL 36116 From:

Birmingham District Office - 420 Ridge Park Place 1130 22nd Street, South Birmingham, AL 35205

| Lanca and the state of the stat | ehalf of person(s) aggneved whose identity is<br>IFIDENTIAL (29 CFR §1601.7(a))  |  |
|--|--|--|
| EOC Charge No.   | EEOC Representative  | Telephone No.  |
|  | Sheri G. Guenster,   |  |
| 20-2006-04336  | Investigator   | (205) 212-2059   |
| HE EEOC IS CLOSING   | ITS FILE ON THIS CHARGE FOR THE FOLLOWIN   | G REASON:  |
| The facts alleged  | in the charge fail to state a claim under any of the statutes enforce  | ed by the EEOC.  |
| Your allegations   | did not involve a disability as defined by the Americans With Disab  | bilities Act.  |
| The Responden  | temploys less than the required number of employees or is not other  | erwise covered by the statutes.  |
| Your charge was  | s not timely filed with EEOC; in other words, you waited too long a  | after the date(s) of the alleged discrimination to file your   |
|  | given 30 days in which to respond, you failed to provide rences, or otherwise failed to cooperate to the extent that it was no   |  |
| While reasonabl  | e efforts were made to locate you, we were not able to do so.  |  |
| You were given   | 30 days to accept a reasonable settlement offer that affords full reli   | ief for the harm you alleged.  |
| establishes viola  | es the following determination: Based upon its investigation, the Et<br>tions of the statutes. This does not certify that the respondent is in<br>that might be construed as having been raised by this charge.  |  |
| The EEOC has a   | adopted the findings of the state or local fair employment practices   | agency that investigated this charge.  |
| Other (briefly sta   | ite)   |  |
|  | - NOTICE OF SUIT RIGHTS - (See the additional information attached to this i   | and the second of the second o |
| otice of dismissal and of<br>deral law based on this<br>this notice; or your rig<br>different.)<br>qual Pay Act (EPA): E<br>eged EPA underpaymen   | with Disabilities Act, and/or the Age Discrimination  f your right to sue that we will send you. You may find charge in federal or state court. Your lawsuit must that to sue based on this charge will be lost. (The time TPA suits must be filed in federal or state court within that. This means that backpay due for any violations.) | ile a lawsuit against the respondent(s) under the filed WITHIN 90 DAYS of your receipt limit for filing suit based on a state claim mater at 2 years (3 years for willful violations) of the   |
| efore you file suit may  | not be collectible.  |  |
|  | On behalf of the Commission  | on <b>6 OCT 200</b> 6  |
| inclosures(s)  | Bernice Williams-Kimbrough,<br>District Director   | (Date Mailed)  |
| c: Dr. Anthony Mori<br>President   | na   |  |
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